

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1100

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By Mr. Fennell of Lynn, petition of Robert F. Fennell and others  
relative to dress codes in public schools. Education.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### PETITION OF:

Robert F. Fennell	Stephen M. Brewer
Thomas A. Golden, Jr.	Joyce A. Spiliotis

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In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO DRESS CODES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by striking Section 83 and inserting in place thereof the  
3 following section:—

4 Section 83. School officials shall not abridge the rights of stu-  
5 dents as to personal dress and appearance except if such officials:  
6 a) determine that such personal dress and appearance violate rea-  
7 sonable standards of health, safety and cleanliness or b) are acting  
8 in accordance with a code of personal dress and appearance as  
9 authorized by the school committee of each city, town, or regional  
10 school district after reasonable consultation with the school coun-  
11 cils of each city, town or regional school district; and c) only if  
12 said standards or code of personal dress and appearance are  
13 defined and included in the official student handbook, or are dis-  
14 tributed to each student and his parent or guardian at the start of  
15 each school year, or upon enrollment, whichever occurs first.

1 SECTION 2. Section 86 of chapter 71 is amended by striking  
2 out the text in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the  
3 following:- The provision of sections 83 to 85 shall apply only to  
4 municipal, vocational and regional school districts that accept the  
5 same by a majority vote of the school committee, or in the case of  
6 a charter school, by the board of trustees.

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